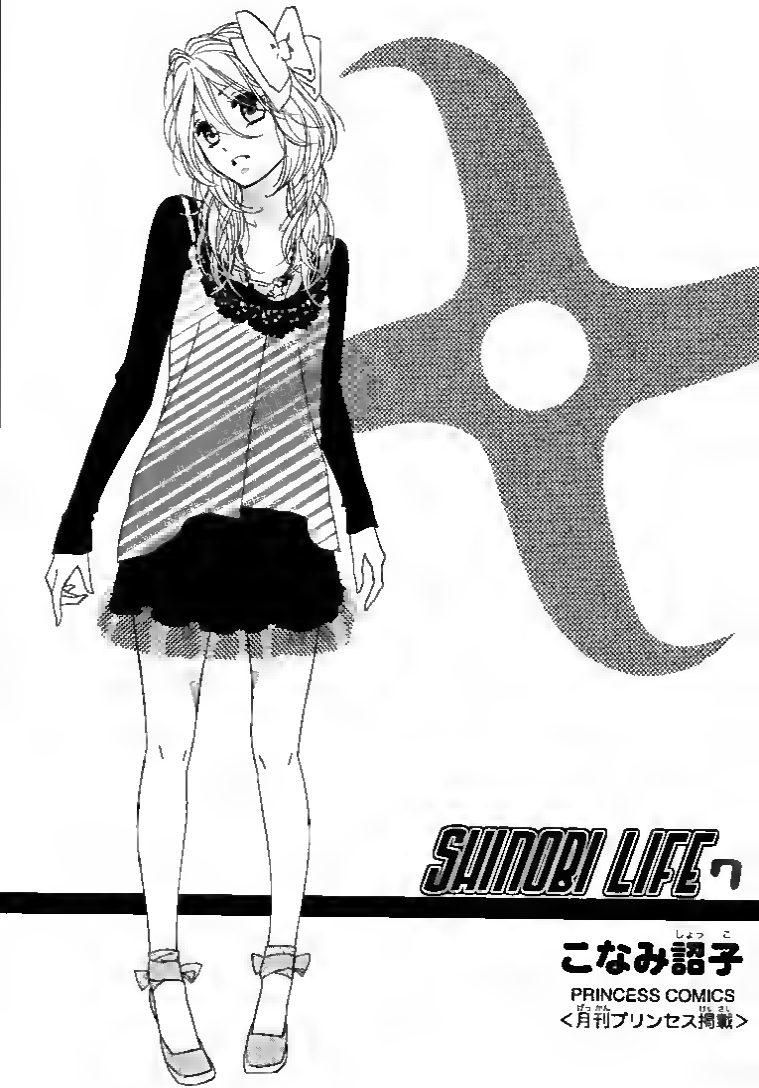
Shinobi
life
シノビライフ



SHINOBI LIFE 7

こなみ詔子

PRINCESS COMICS
<月刊プリンセス掲載>

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☆この作品はフィクションです。実在の個人・団体等には、いっさい関係ありません。

SHINOBI LIFE
chapter 30

...YOU SAY RENKAKU IS A SPY?
WHO DID YOU HEAR THAT FROM, MIZUNAGI.
FROM ABI.
I'VE HEARD THAT ABI AND DAIZEN HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES DURING A MISSION, BUT...
BEFORE WE LEFT ON THE MISSION HE SAID THAT
...YES.
ABI?
...IF THAT'S DUE TO RENKAKU'S SPYING AS WELL...

MIZUNAGI
WE SHOULD TELL THIS TO OOJIJISAMA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND GET RENKAKU TO...
HACHI-KUMA
HAVE YOU TOLD ANY OF THIS TO ANYONE ELSE?
I HAVE.
I SEE
THEN
WHY DO YOU ASK?
FWOOSH
YOU'RE NO LONGER NEEDED
DON

...HACHI
THUD

GIVE THIS TO THAT GIRL
I'M SURE THAT SHE CAN'T GO OUT MUCH IF SHE DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH CLOTHES.
Thanks Enji! i'm sure she'll be glad.
ENJI GAVE YOU THIS
WHAT'S GOING ON?

is it okay? if i borrow this from you, Enji-san.
YES
Waah ♡
i'm happy
i'm really happy. ♡
KAGETORAAA
RENKAKU-DONO'S CALLING ME, I'LL BE BACK SOON.

...IT SEEMS LIKE KAGETORA LIKES YOU.
...REALLY?
YOU REALLY THINK SO?
YES, NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT.
THIS IS PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME
I'VE SEEN KAGETORA LAUGH LIKE THAT.

...WHEN I FIRST CAME HERE I THOUGHT KAGETORA HATED ME...
BUT NOW IT DOESN'T REALLY FEEL LIKE IT ANYMORE.
IF SOMEONE ELSE CAN SEE IT TOO, THEN
I'M REALLY HAPPY.
BUT I THOUGHT
THAT IT MAY BE JUST ME THINKING THAT.
I have something to ask of you...
WHAT IS IT?
COULD YOU TEACH ME HOW TO FIX A KIMONO?
AND MAYBE SOME OTHER THINGS...
THERE ARE MANY THINGS I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DO SINCE I CAME HERE.

SO LITTLE BY LITTLE ....
BUT I WANT TO LEARN QUICKLY
QUICKLY IS IMPOS-SIBLE!
DON'T BE SO SURE
I'LL DO MY BEST! BESIDES ...
I WOULDN'T MIND TEACHING YOU BUT
EVEN IF WE HURRY UP WITH IT IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN LEARN SO QUICKLY.
BUT I WANT TO LEARN, LITTLE BY LITTLE
QUICKLY.
I'M... A FOREIGNER, SEE...? SOMETHING LIKE THAT, SO I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!

YOU CAN'T TELL IF SOMETHING IS IMPOSSIBLE
BEFORE YOU EVEN TRY IT!
YOU REALLY REMIND ME OF SOMEONE.
...
YOU'RE STUB-BORN.

Surprised
EH....
YOU DON'T MEAN SOMEONE LIKE...
EE?! HIME?
A PRINCESS OR... SOMEONE PRINCESS-ISH... RIGHT?
SOME-THING LIKE THAT
ENJI
GU-KHUMP
PRIN-CEEESSS ?
THEN WHO?
AH... SO THAT'S A NO
THE HELL YOU'RE A PRINCESS
DON'T THINK SO HIGHLY OF YOURSELF

HA... HACHIKUMA
IS THERE SOMETHING YOU NEED?
OOJIJISAMA IS CALLING.
stare
OOJIJISAMA IS?
vow
SOMEHOW
HE SEEMS LIKE AN INTIMIDATING PERSON...
I'M WEAK AGAINST THAT

AH, RIIIGHHT
BECAUSE MY DAD'S THE SAME TYPE
MAYBE THAT'S WHY
SORRY, ENJI, DID YOU WAIT LONG?
COMING ALL THE WAY TO SEE ME...
YOU SEE I.....
SHE'S GONE!!
SHE ALREADY LEFT.
KAGETORA! YOU SHOULD'VE SAID ENJI CAME OVER SOONER!!
WHA
DON'T SAY THAT!
no business with me
IT'S BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY BUSINESS WITH YOU ....
AH.... A HACHIKUMA(?) PERSON CAME....
LEAVING WITHOUT EVEN SAYING HELLO TO ME...

HACHIKUMA?!
AH... UM.... I THINK IT WAS ....
WHO WAS CALLING HER...?
AN OOJIJISAMA OR SOMETHING?
HE SAID THERE WAS SOMEONE CALLING ENJI-SAN AND HE CAME AND TOOK HER THERE...
THAT'S WHY IT'S NOT LIKE SHE DIDN'T COME TO SAY HELLO ...

WHAT DOES OOJIJISAMA WANT WITH ME.....?
HACHIKUMA
.....
HACHIKU-MA...!
YOU'LL KNOW WHEN WE GET THERE.
... HACHIKUMA, ARE YOU ....
WHAT?

...NO
IT'S NOTHING.
ENJI
THERE IS SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU.

WHAT IS IT, OOJIJISAMA?
IF THE CLAN'S MASTER HEARS FROM THIS WOMAN
IT'S ABOUT YOUR MISSION IN HISAI
EVERYONE FROM THE INUISHUU WILL START DOUBTING RENKAKU.
THAT RENKAKU IS ACTUALLY A SPY....

THEN THE CLAN'S MASTER WON'T HAVE HIS ATTENTION ON ME.
I HAVE GOTTEN INFORMATION THAT RENKAKU WAS IN THE VILLAGE DURING THAT TIME.
AND THEN
FIRST HE HAS TO HAVE HIS ATTENTION ON THIS.
ENJI, YOU'VE SEEN RENKAKU IN HISAI, RIGHT?
AND THEN I CAN TAKE CARE OF THE SMALL FRY EASILY

ENJI,
HAVE YOU REALLY SEEN RENKAKU IN HISAI?
IF YOU ARE INDEED NOT LYING THEN
I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD START INVESTIGATING RENKAKU.

NO,
I HAVEN'T.
WHA...?
WHAT DID SHE SAY?!

WHO SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
...THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
IN HISAI I...
CHANGED INTO RENKAKU
AND CALLED OUT THAT WOMAN IN THAT FORM.

YOU YOURSELF TOLD ME THIS.
I DON'T REMEMBER SAYING ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
I DID?
COULD IT BE
THAT SHE'S LYING TO COVER FOR
MORE THAN RENKAKU
I THINK IT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO TALK WITH THE PERSON WHO SAW HIM HERE MORE THOROUGHLY.

PLEASE CALL WHOEVER IT WAS RIGHT AWAY!
ENJI...
OOJIISAMA!
NO.... BUT
TL Note- No, Enji! Kachikuma is watching!!
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SHE'S LYING.
THE PERSON WHO SAID THAT... IS ALREADY DEAD.
IT'S A PITY, BUT I CAN'T DO THAT, ENJI.

ARE YOU SUSPECTING RENKAKU AS WELL?
EVERYONE IS SAYING THAT RENKAKU IS SPYING ON US AND BETRAYING US.
AND WHAT OOJIJISAMA SAID BEFORE TOO....

DO YOU BELIEVE IT, TOO?
IT'S NOT WHETHER I BELIEVE IT OR NOT
I JUST THINK THAT THERE'S NEED TO INVESTIGATE THE MATTER
IF IT'S TRUE THEN....
WE SHOULD STRIKE BEFORE ...
HE'S NOT A PERSON WHO'D DO THAT!

YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER...
WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN WITH HIM AS CHILDREN.
HE'S NOT SOMEONE WHO CAN DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
WITH HIS POWER TO DETECT LIES HE'S....
TAKEN HIS PART HERE.
YOU SHOULD KNOW HOW IMPORTANT THAT IS FOR HIM.

...THIS WOMAN.... DOES SHE REALLY NOT REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED IN HISAI?
IF NONE OF US LIED THEN ...
THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY NEED FOR HIS POWERS.
HE WON'T BE NEEDED IN INUISHUU ANYMORE
COULD IT BE THAT
THEY WERE ERASED?
FOR HIM, TRUST IS
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING.
BY RENKAKU

...RENKAKU IS STARTING TO NOTICE...
YOU AND ME KNOW THAT
I WANT TO BELIEVE HIM, AS WELL
I UNDER-STAND YOUR FEEL-INGS
ENJI

THIS WOMAN IS ALREADY HELPLESS
WE CAN'T LEAVE EVERYTHING TO THE GODS.
NOW I SHOULD JUST...
I SHOULD HURRY UP A LITTLE MORE
BUT, ENJI
WE'RE SHINOBI
WAI.... HACHI-KUMA?

KILL H...
HACHIKUMA...

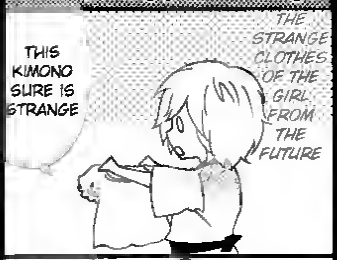
...WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
Re... Renkaku...
!
WHEN DID HE GET HERE
...NOTHING, REALLY...
NOTHING?
REALLY?

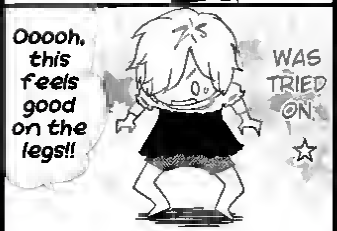
PISSED
DON'T PLAY INNOCENT, YOU WERE JUST TOUCHING ENJI!!
LIKE THIIIIS!!!

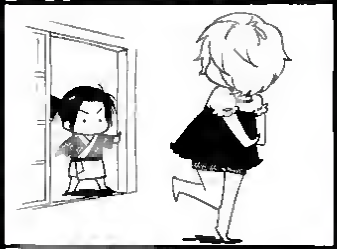
...OH
SHIT!

SHOVE
HACHI-KUMA
YOU....

He surprisingly has nice legs.







He's too pitiful.

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SHINOBI LIFE
Chapter 31

...OH SHIT!

...DID HE FIND OUT
...HACHI-KUMA
YOU.....
THAT I'M NOT REALLY "HACHIKUMA?"
...NO CHOICE
I SHOULD FINISH THESE TWO RIGHT N....

YOU
CUT YOUR HAIR?
...I HAVEN'T
LIAR! YOU HAD ENJI CUT IT FOR YOU?!
Oaaoh, so unfair!
CUT MINE, TOO! ENJI?
WEREN'T.... YOU GOING TO MAKE IT LONGER?
Cause my bangs are too long
So Enji's gonna cut mine now,
seee yaaaa, Hachi-kuma

.....
....JUST NOW
I WANTED TO MAKE SURE OF IT ONCE MORE, BUT
IF I DID ANYTHING MORE, ENJI MIGHT'VE BEEN IN DANGER...
IT WAS JUST FOR A SECOND... BUT I FELT A CERTAIN DISCOMFORT
HACHIKUMA HAS BEEN ACTING STRANGE LATELY
DOES IT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THAT DISCOMFORT I HAD...?
...I SHOULD MAKE SURE ONCE MORE

YOU'VE GOTTEN BETTER AT CUTTING LATELY
CUT
CUT
STAB
Really?!
CUT
IT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE LOOKING AROUND WHILE CUTTING ...
OW!!!
AH....

YOUR SKIN'S TORN
PAIN

ぎゅ-
ぎゅ-
ぎゅ-

...
KAGETORA
I.....
I.....
G... GOING TO WASH IT WITH WATER!
DASH

.....
NIGHTEN
...I
Haa
Haa
FEEL
STRANGE

Haaa
THAT'S KAGETORA FROM THE PAST, AND I'M
NOT THE KAGETORA I KNOW.
THEY SHOULD BE...
DIFFERENT

BUT
KAGETORA IS STILL KAGETORA, EVEN WHEN 14 YEARS OLD...
....I'LL LOVE HIM
IF HE DOES SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO ME
SO MUCH, SO MUCH
I WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

BECAUSE, ACTUALLY
THAT KAGETORA IS STILL THE ONE FROM BEFORE I MET HIM....
I REALLY CAN'T TELL HIM
THAT I LOVE HIM.
PAIN
PAIN
....IT HURTS
PAIN

IS BLEEDING AGAIN
PAIN
PAIN
THAT WOUND I CUT BEFORE
ba-thump
ba-thump
IT HURT ....
AS MY HEART
IT'S THUMPING AT THE SAME RHYTHM

EVEN THOUGH... THIS IS THE PAST
IF I CUT MYSELF I'LL FEEL PAIN AND BLEED
AN UNDOUBTFUL REALITY....
IS IT REALLY FINE FOR ME TO BE HERE?
IS THIS REALLY OKAY?
EVEN IF THIS IS THE PAST FOR ME
FOR KAGETORA AND THEM IT'S THE PRESENT

WHEN KAGETORA FELL FROM THE SKY
OUR FIRST MEETING
IF I LIVE HERE WITH KAGETORA THEN
....
WOULDN'T BE A FIRST ANYMORE WOULD IT....?!
NEVER MIND ME
"RIGHT NOW" IS TURNING OUT TO BE OUR FIRST MEETING.
FOR KAGETORA
THAT TIME...

RIGHT NOW!
I
MIGHT BE MESSING WITH THE TIME LENGTH.
IF I MESS TOO MUCH WITH THE PAST
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THE FUTURE?
WOULD THE FUTURE CHANGE OR SOMETHING?

...
REN-
KAKU-
SAN
OH?
WHAT
IS IT,
DID YOU
COME
PICK....
smile
Cling
ME....
UP
.....
IS...
SOMETHING
WRONG?

IS THIS ABOUT KAG-ETORA?
.....
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT
I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT... A LOT OF THINGS....
AND ....
I
MY THOUGHTS HEADED INTO A SCARY DIRECTION...
AH
COULD IT BE THAT HE DID SOMETHING PERVERTED TO YOU?!
HE'S JUST A KID! I THOUGHT HE WAS ONLY A KID, WHEN DID HE TURN INTO THAT
NO

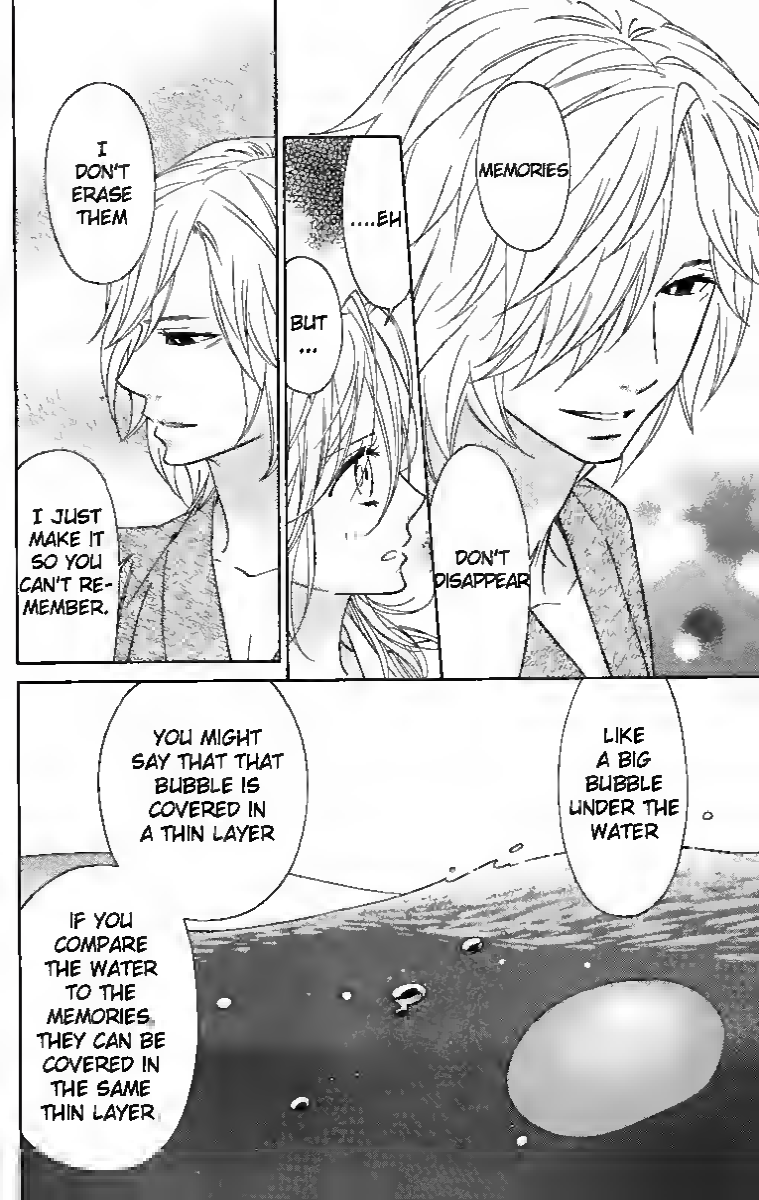
pat
pat
IT STIIIIIIIIIIIILL GOES BACK INTO A BAD DIRECTION, HUH
HMMMM, THINGS LIKE THAT HAPPEN
EVEN IF YOU TRY TO CHANGE IT INTO SOMETHING GOOD
pat
pat
EH
...I LIKE
THAT
WHEN I WAS... YOUNG AND GOT SAD
MY MOTHER USED TO PAT MY BACK LIKE THAT
IT'S VERY CALMING.

....I SEE
ha ha ha...
A MOTHER....
IF ANYTHING SHE SHOULD'VE SAID 'LIKE A FATHER', IT WOULD'VE SOUNDED BETTER.
SAY
IS THERE SOMETHING YOU WANT?
SOMETHING YOU WANT ME TO DO FOR YOU?
IF IT'S SOMETHING IN MY POWER, I'LL DO WHAT I CAN
I'D LIKE TO MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER EVEN A LITTLE, SOMEHOW.
...CAN YOU

REALLY ERASE ...MEMO-RIES?
CAN YOU MAKE EVERYONE FORGET... ABOUT ME?
....DO YOU REALLY WANT ME TO DO THAT?

WOULD THAT MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER?
....NO

...FRANKLY
I CAN'T DO THAT
...GOOD
ERASING ...
MEMORIES.


I DON'T ERASE THEM
I JUST MAKE IT SO YOU CAN'T RE-MEMBER.
....EH
BUT ...
MEMORIES
DON'T DISAPPEAR
YOU MIGHT SAY THAT THAT BUBBLE IS COVERED IN A THIN LAYER
IF YOU COMPARE THE WATER TO THE MEMORIES, THEY CAN BE COVERED IN THE SAME THIN LAYER
LIKE A BIG BUBBLE UNDER THE WATER

AS LONG AS THE LAYER DOESN'T POP
THE WATER INSIDE WILL STAY THE SAME WAY
BUT IF BY SOME CURRENT THE BUBBLE POPS
IN A SECOND
THE WATER WILL COME OUT.
THEY'LL REMEMBER WHAT THEY FORGOT.

THAT'S WHY..... SEE?
COMPLETELY ERASING IT IS IMPOSSIBLE.
SORRY, I ASKED FOR SOMETHING .... VERY SELFISH
....A PERSON'S MEMORY IS
NOT TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY LIKE A CELLPHONE'S MEMORY.
... I ... SEE

TL Note: Keitai = cellphone and a cellphone's memory is said in English in Japanese, so Rankaku is confusaaaed!

f
s
h
h
h
GACK
. . . UH?
I WAS CLOSE TO FALLING...
DID THE FALLING AREA CHANGE...?
HGO
!?
THAT STRUCTURE... LOOKS DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE.

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
NOT ONLY THE TIME, BUT IS THE PLACE DIFFERENT, AS WELL?
NO... THAT'S NOT IT
THE BUILDING I JUMPED FROM IS THERE! AND... BEN-SAMA'S HOUSE IS HERE... TOO...
STAGGER
THE PLACE HASN'T CHANGED...
THUD
...WHAT CHANGED IS THAT BUILDING
....UH

tap
...
HELLO?
WHO'S....
THERE?

SHINOBI LIFE
Chapter 32

....A HAND
THAT USUAL HAND
THAT USUAL DREAM...
I'LL GRAB IT TODAY
TODAY....

....BENI
...SAMA

FINALLY ...
FINALLY, I FOUND YOU.
I WON'T.... EVER
BENI-SAMA...!
...KAG-ETORA?

BENI-
HIME... SAMA
A RE-PLACE-MENT

YOU'RE USING THAT WOMAN
AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE PRINCESS
....N
KAGETORA
NO...
BENI-HIME...?

...BENI-SAMA
I UNDER-STAND I
Y... YOU JUST SAID THE WRONG THING
SINCE I LOOK LIKE HER.... LIKE BENI-HIME...

I CAN'T...
GET CLOSE TO HER
BENI-SAMA!!
...SHE'S NOT A REPLACEMENT!

I COULD SEE BOTH BENI-SAMA AND BENI-HIMESAMA
BUT AT THAT TIME
...I SAW BENI-HIMESAMA'S NAME
I MYSELF DON'T KNOW.
WHY.
WHY.... DID I CALL HER "NAME"
WHY DID I SEE THEM BOTH?

I HAVE NOTHING
TO PROVE THAT SHE'S NOT JUST HER REPLACEMENT.
MY MEMORIES ARE FORMLESS
PROOF
I WANT
TO GET RID OF MY HESITATION
A PROOF FOR MYSELF AS WELL
THAT SHE'S NOT HER REPLACEMENT

I WANT PROOF TO BELIEVE IN....
MYSELF
IS HE... SICK?
POKE

WHEN I HAVE A FEVER, MOM ALWAYS
DOES THIS
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
DASH
tap
tap
tap
SP
LA
.....

BWA
You're awake!
I'LL DIE!
DRIP
DRIP
... WATER
DO YOU... WANT TO DRINK WATER?
wait! i'll bring some.

AH...
fshhh
CUP...
LOOKS AROUND
WATER...
Fuuu

Fufu
it tickles~
YOU WANT MORE?
... YEAH
then wait here!

STOPS
Beniiii
Yeeeeees
i'm here, mom!
.... BENI?!

TO THAT BLACK...
WATER?
Um, I'm giving water
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, BEN!?
HMMMM? IT'S GONE
OH...?
I WONDER WHERE THE CAT WENT
screack

...THAT'S BEN-SAMA AS A CHILD.
THEN THIS IS!!
it's not a cat!
i-i-it's
sooooo~
I'M SOOOORRY, I THOUGHT IT WAS A CAT
puu
was it a bird?
BEN!
MOMMY HAS SOME THINGS TO DO IN THE SHED.

...WILL YOU REALLY BE RIGHT BACK?
YUP
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK... SO WAIT FOR ME IN YOUR ROOM?

DON'T FOLLOW ME
BEN!
NO
tap
...I WANT TO GO, TOO
WAIT IN YOUR ROOM
WHEN I COME BACK, LET'S PLAY TOGETHER
ALSO
DON'T TELL DADDY THAT MOMMY WENT INTO THE SHED.

.....
OKAY
THAT'S...
BENI-SAMA
AS A CHILD

HOW IRONIC.
BECAUSE OF THAT... I GOT SEPARATED FROM BENI-SAMA
BUT IF IT WASN'T FOR THAT, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SEE BENI-SAMA AS A CHILD.
CRACK
!
HIDE

SHE'S BEN SAWA'S MOTHER...
tap
tap
tap
I SEE... HERE SHE WAS STILL...

.....
KUU
...WHAT
IS
SHE...

FWOOSH
DASH
SHE'S IN DANGER!!

.....SH

SHE'S GONE?!

IT CAN'T BE...
THE WAY SHE DISAPPEARED JUST NOW
IS THERE ONE HERE, TOO?
A HOLE...!!

WHERE DOES IT LEAD TO...
THE PAST...? OR COULD IT BE....
NO
STRAIN
STRAIN
STRAIN
STRAIN
MORE IMPORTANTLY, MOTHER IS....

FWOOSH
HPPPCK

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[こなみ晶子]シノビライフ
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SHINOBI LIFE
Chapter 33

FWOOSH
KYAH!

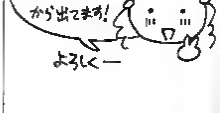
CATCH
phew...

WHO ARE YOU?
!
EH...
EXACTLY WHO ARE YOU?!
I THOUGHT I TOLD EVERYONE TO NEVER GO IN HERE...
WHAT... EXACTLY ...
HELLO!
SOMEONE GET OVER HERE!!
!

こんにちは！こなみです。
このスペースに字を書くの
久しぶりやー…。

この本をお手にとってくださって
ありがとうございます！
7巻も続いてるマンガなのに
ずっとつきあってくださってる
あなたはわたしにとって太陽✧
です！

とっぜん！雷に打たれたような
ステキなことがおこりました。
なんと『シ／ビライフ』の
ドラマCDを作っていただいた
んです!!　アフレコレポートが
巻末にありますので、ぜひ
よんでみて下さい♡

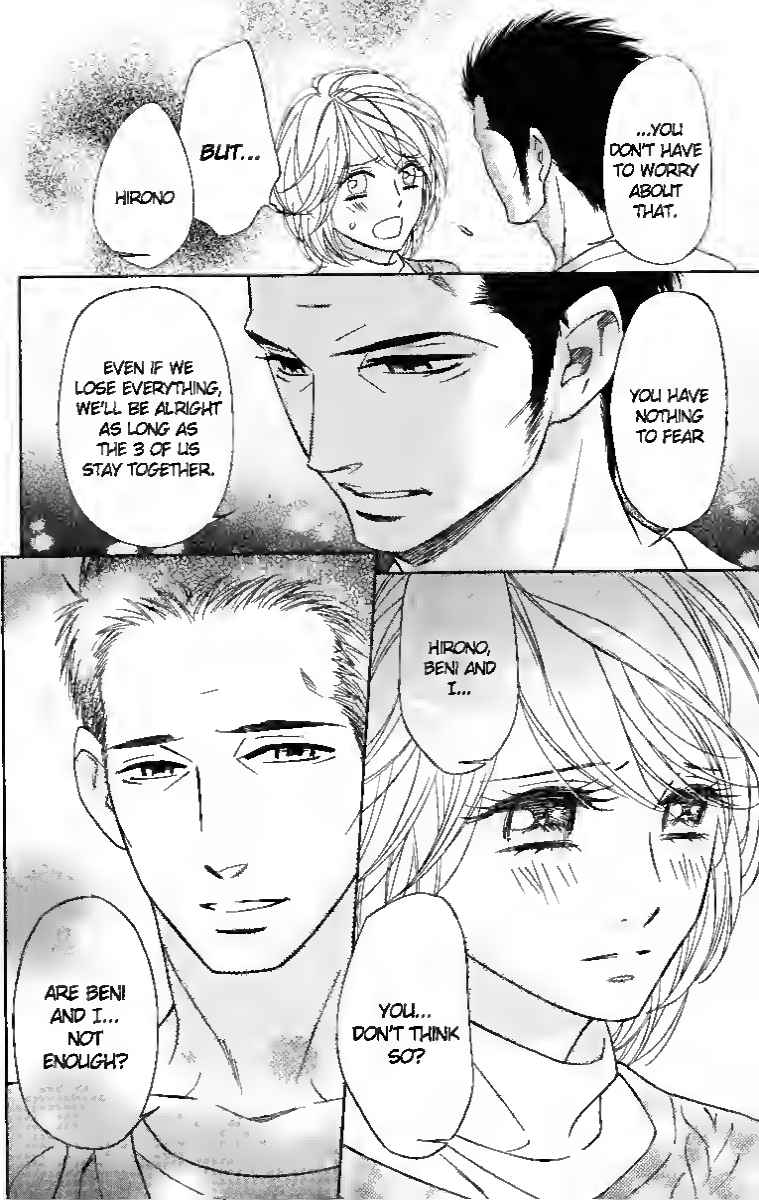


WASN'T THE GATE OPEN WHEN YOU GOT IN HERE?
...AH
YOU MAY LEAVE.
Y... YES SIR.

THIS HOLE
IS CONNECTED TO THE FUTURE...
!
THE FUTURE?!
DID YOU GO THERE AGAIN?
TO THE FUTURE.
IT'S NOT LIKE I JUST STARTED DOING IT TODAY OR YESTERDAY.
I'VE BEEN USING THE HOLE FOR AGES NOW.
MY MOTHER... AND HER MOTHER, TOO
EVERY-ONE'S BEEN USING IT THROUGH-OUT GEN-ERATIONS
I THOUG HT...
I TOLD YOU NOT TO GO THERE ANYMORE.
... DON'T WORRY
I'M USED TO IT.

AS A PROPHET.
THEN WE CAN KNOW THE NEAR FUTURE
AND CONTINUE OUR INFLUENCE
THAT'S NOT A PROPHECY.
.....
... MAYBE SO
BUT IT'S ALWAYS BEEN USEFUL ...

NOW THEN, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
...I KNOW ALREADY!
DON'T USE IT EVER AGAIN.
...THAT THING IS DANGER-OUS.
ABOUT THAT.
...I KNOW
OUR COMPANY'S STARTING TO FALL.


...YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.
BUT... HIRONO
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR
EVEN IF WE LOSE EVERYTHING, WE'LL BE ALRIGHT AS LONG AS THE 3 OF US STAY TOGETHER.
HIRONO, BENI AND I...
YOU... DON'T THINK SO?
ARE BENI AND I... NOT ENOUGH?

...IT'S...
OF COURSE IT'S ENOUGH.
... HIRONO
OF COURSE I...
EVEN WITHOUT THIS HOUSE
WHEREVER THE 3 OF US STAY WOULD BE OUR HOME.

NO.
... HIRONO
IF WE LET THIS PLACE GO
WE CAN'T LET THIS PLACE GO!
PEOPLE WILL KNOW ABOUT THE HOLE
I DON'T CARE.. ABOUT MYSELF
BUT, I CAN'T LET YOU AND... BENI BE LOOKED DOWN BY SOCIETY.

IF THAT WERE TO HAPPEN... I'D
I WOULD ...
I WON'T STOP USING THE HOLE.
I DON'T WANT TO LET THIS PLACE GO.

FOR YOU... AND FOR BENI.
...I
USED THAT HOLE TO GO TO THE FUTURE.
...EH

I WAS INTERESTED.
I THOUGHT I COULD USE IT IN A MORE BENEFICIAL WAY IF IT WORKED...
WHAT FOR?
YOU, WHAT ....?
ARE YOU STILL ...
USING IT?
ONCE... DO YOU REMEMBER MY SECRETARY, UENO?
NO...
... YES.
YOU LIKED HIM...
BUT HE QUIT QUITE A WHILE AGO.
I WON'T EVER USE THAT HOLE AGAIN.

.....
WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY TALKING ABOUT UENO-SAN....
WE WENT THERE TOGETHER.
I TOOK UENO WITH ME
TO THE FUTURE.
..ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!
I'M NOT.
WHAT..! WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU THINK-ING?!!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT..!
WHY DID YOU DO... OH NO, SOMEONE ELSE FOUND OUT...
ABOUT THE HOLE ....

CALL UENO-SAN RIGHT AWAY!
YOU HAVE TO STOP HIM FROM TELLING OTHERS ABOUT IT...!
...THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT
O...
OF COURSE THERE'S A NEED TO DO IT!! BECAU...
UENO IS GONE.
...HE DISAPPEARED.

UENO WAS ERASED IN THE FUTURE.

WHEN UENO SAW HIS FUTURE SELF
HE WENT OVER TO TALK TO HIM
...AH
...FOR SOME REASON
THEN FOR A WHILE UENO...
MY VISION IS GETTING BLURRY...
...AH!

UENO!
AH... UWAAAH!
HE...
WHAT THE... ?!
WHY AM I TRANSP-
HE DIS-AP-PEARED ...
MY PAST SELF...
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS...
.....!

...EH
...AAH!
WHY ME, TOO..
WAIT!
WAIT A MINUTE!! THIS CAN'T—...
KISS
SKKKKK

.....
.....
UNLIKE UENO, I... CAME BACK WITHOUT MEETING MY FUTURE SELF.
UENO IS NO LONGER IN THIS WORLD.
NOTHING HAPPENED ... TO MY BODY
BEFORE AND AFTER I CAME BACK.

...IF A PERSON SEES HIMSELF
AND GETS CLOSE TO HIM, HE'LL BE ERASED.

.. MY MOTHER ALWAYS WARNED ME ABOUT IT
SHE TOLD ME TO NEVER GET CLOSE TO MYSELF WHEN I USED THE HOLE...
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT IF SOMEONE EXISTS TWICE IN THE SAME TIMELINE IT WOULD CREATE A TIME PARADOX.
ERASED...
HIRONO
WERE YOU AWARE OF THIS?
I'VE HEARD THAT ONLY ONE WOULD DISAPPEAR IN A CASE LIKE THAT.
WHETHER IT BE THE ONE FROM THE PAST OR THE FUTURE... IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THERE'S ANY REAL RULE AS TO WHO DISAPPEARS.

IT'S JUST THAT
IF THE PAST ONE DISAPPEARS
THEN THE FUTURE ONE WOULDN'T EXIST TO BEGIN WITH.
SINCE, SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T EXIST WOULDN'T HAVE A FUTURE.

.....
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN YOURSELF IN THE HOLE?
TH... THERE WAS ONCE...
I NEVER GOT TOO CLOSE TO MYSELF, SO I'VE BEEN ALRIGHT.
.....
MANY TIMES.
WHAT...!
BY ACCIDENT, WE MET AND BEFORE I KNEW IT WE WERE REALLY CLOSE, BUT...
BUT...

I GOT A HEAD-ACHE...
AND I WAS REALLY SURPRISED WHEN I STARTED DISAPPEARING
BUT WE BOTH FLED FROM THE PLACE.
THEN WHAT DISAPPEARED REAPPEARED AGAIN.
SLAP
SO IT'S ALRIGHT, AS LONG AS I HURRY UP AND GET AWAY IT'S...

AND STILL... YOU'RE NOT GOING TO STOP USING IT?
...YOU KNOW IT'S DANGEROUS
.....
I WON'T.
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT, IF WE LET GO OF THIS PLACE...

WHAT HAPPENS TO THIS PLACE..
IT'S JUST A HOUSE!
YOU AND BENI WOULD— ...
THAT'S NOT IMPOR-TANT!
WHY ARE YOU SO ATTACHED TO THIS THING?!!

...YOU
....SAY IT THAT WAY
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO...
IT'S SO STUPID!!

...WE'LL SELL THIS PLACE...
NO MATTER WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT ME AND BENI
LET THE WORLD KNOW ABOUT THE HOLE
WHAT THEY THINK...

THAT'S NOT AT ALL... IMPORTANT...
COMPARED TO LOSING YOU...
HIRONO ...

YOU'RE... THINKING SO MUCH ABOUT BENI AND ME
THAT YOU CAN'T EVEN SEE HOW MUCH WE NEED YOU.
HIRONO, I...
I'LL NEVER LET YOU USE THIS THING EVER AGAIN.
WON'T LET YOU GO TO THE FUTURE.

BENI!
STAY AWAY FROM THE WAREHOUSE!!
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU IF YOU GO IN THERE AGAIN.
.....!
COULD IT BE THAT THE REASON FATHER WAS BEING SO HARSH ON BENI
BE...
FOR BENI-SAMA'S SAKE...
SO THAT BENI-SAMA WOULDN'T USE THE HOUSE...

I'VE ONLY LOOKED AT THE SURFACE OF THE THINGS THIS MAN SAID
AND JUST JUDGED HIM ACCORDING TO THAT.
IN TRUTH, THIS MAN IS, LIKE THIS...
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
I'VE DONE A TERRIBLE THING—...
A KIND PERSON...

ONCE I MEET BENI-SAMA
I WANT TO EXPLAIN THIS MISUNDERSTANDING TO HER...
BENI-SAMA HAS BEEN
MISUNDER-STANDING HIM, AS WELL.
rustle...

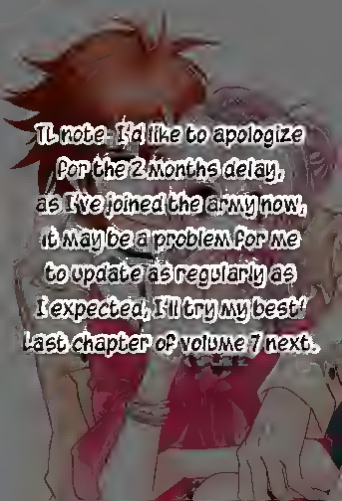
WHO'S THERE!!
WHO'S OVER THERE?!
I WAS NOTICED...?!
I DIDN'T THINK I MADE ANY SOUND...

I KNOW YOU'RE OVER THERE
TAP
...YOU MIGHT NOT BELIEVE ME...
COME OUT... REVEAL YOURSELF.
GRASP
"KSHH"
!
BUT I DID NOT COME HERE TO DO ANYTHING BAD...
MY NAME IS KAGETORA.

...KAGE...
TORA...?
PLEASE TELL ME WHY DO YOU HAVE THIS THING?
..ARE YOU IN ANYWAY RELATED TO THE KAGETORA FROM THE INUISHUU?
WHY DO YOU... KNOW OF THAT ...
I'VE NEVER TALKED ABOUT THAT... WHO ARE YOU....
..ARE YOU REALLY... KAGETORA?
WHY ARE YOU HERE..
COULD IT BE THAT YOU FELL THROUGH THE SAME HOLE?
..THE SAME...?

I SEE... YOU WERE STILL A CHILD WHEN WE LAST MET.
I'VE... AGED QUITE A BIT, AS WELL.
DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME...?
...IT'S ME, KAGETORA.
I'M INUISHUU'S HACHIKUMA.

chapter 33/END


TL note: I'd like to apologize
for the 2 months delay,
as I've joined the army now,
it may be a problem for me
to update as regularly as
I expected, I'll try my best!
Last chapter of volume 7 next.

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SHINOBI LIFE

Chapter 34

I'M INUI-SHUU'S HACHI-KUMA.
KAG-ETORA
... IT'S ME

HACHI-KUMA...?!
...HACHI

YOU'RE... HACHIKUMA-DONO?
CAN'T BELIEVE IT SO EASILY, HUH?
...I CAN'T QUITE BELIEVE IT, EITHER—
MEETING YOU ALL GROWN UP LIKE THIS, KAGETORA.
...BUT YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST.
...MAYBE SO, I... THOUGHT SO, TOO.
...WAS I PRONOUNCED DEAD THERE?

COUGH
COUGH
HH
BACK THEN—
haa
haa...
haa...
tap
!!!
THAT MAN...

WITHOUT EVEN WIELDING A WEAPON...
KILLING AURA, EITHER
WITH NO
FROM BELOW MY RIBS
JUST WHEN HE GOT IN RANGE
SUDDENLY

HE THRUSTED HIS HAND IN
AND GRABBED MY GUTS
POW
SUCK...
...IT'S USELESS TO RUN AWAY NOW
HACHI-KUMA.

Author note 2 hours

splash
BLOOD
BLOOD
I WAS SURE
THAT I WAS GOING TO DIE THERE.

A WOMAN WEARING CLOTHES I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE...
YOU WERE HURT... PRETTY BAD...
A SCENE I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE
DON'T TRY TO GET UP JUST YET
...ARE YOU... AWAKE?
YOU'RE CONNECTED TO A CATHETER AND A LOT OF OTHER STUFF
SINCE YOU'VE BEEN SLEEPING FOR MANY DAYS NOW.
UMM ...
...DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME? YOU FELL... UMM... FROM SOMEWHERE ABOVE, REMEMBER?
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT SHE WAS SAYING
YOU GOT HIT BY MY FATHER'S CAR... BY ACCIDENT.
I WANTED TO CALL A FAMILY MEMBER OF YOURS, BUT YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY IDENTIFICATION ON YOU...

I WAS IN A DAZE... AND STARTED THINKING THAT THIS MIGHT BE WHAT DEATH IS LIKE.
IF THERE'S ANYONE YOU'D LIKE ME TO CONTACT, THEN—
AH
BEFORE THAT, I'LL GO CALL A DOCTOR OR—
THAT GIRL'S HAND I GRABBED
HAD A WARM
PULSE

SHE WAS FUJIWARA HIRONO
WIFE, TODAY.
MY

"HACHIKUMA-DONO" IS... BENI-SAMA'S FATHER-
THE "HOLE" THAT YOU AND I PASSED THROUGH IS
SHE TOLD ME
ABOUT THE HOLE AND HOW THIS TIME IS THE "FUTURE" FOR ME.
INSIDE HIRONO'S HOUSE, IN THIS WARE-HOUSE.
ONCE HIRONO REALIZED I WAS FROM THE PAST
IF YOU WERE HERE... AND YOU LISTENED TO OUR CONVERSATION, THEN YOU SHOULD KNOW, RIGHT? HIRONO KNEW ABOUT THE "HOLE".
THE HOLE INSIDE THE WAREHOUSE ISN'T THE SAME AS THE ONE WE...
I KNOW.
IT ONLY CONNECTS BETWEEN HERE AND THE FUTURE.
.....

...BUT TO START WITH...
THE ONE THAT CONNECTS TO THE PAS IS... PROBABLY SOMEWHERE IN THE AREA I FELL THROUGH, I BELIEVE...
BUT I CAN'T QUITE PINPOINT THE AREA.
WHY?!
I HAD NO INTENTIONS OF LOOKING FOR THAT PLACE...
SINCE I HAVE HIRONO
AND MY DAUGHTER BENI HERE.
... BECAUSE I DECIDED.

AS LONG AS I HAVE SOMETHING TO PROTECT HERE
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF GOING BACK TO THAT ERA.
I HAVE NO NEED
FOR THE HOLE THAT LEADS TO THE PAST.
KAG-ETORA
DO YOU KNOW WHERE IT IS? THE HOLE THAT LEADS TO THE PAST.
.....

I'M... USING THE HOLE TO THE PAST
TO SEARCH FOR...
BENI-SAMA.
17 YEAR OLD... BENI-SAMA—...

...17 YEAR OLD
BENI...?
SHE USED... THE HO—
I SIN-CERELY APOLO-GIZE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN... YOU'RE LOOKING FOR HER—...
...IT'S MY FAULT.

I'M NOT SURE... WHERE TO START...
JUST LIKE HACHIKUMA-DONO, I FELL THROUGH THE HOLE TO A FUTURE A BIT LATER FROM THIS ONE...

THROUGH SOME CIRCUMSTANCES, I ENDED UP TAKING THE DUTY OF PROTECTING BENI-SAMA—...
AND THEN...
YOU'RE... BENI'S?
...IS BENI
IS FUTURE BENI USING THE HOLE?!
GO BACK TO THE ERA I LIVED IN... SHE ASKED ME FOR IT...
.....
BENI-SAMA
WANTED TO
SO WE USED THE HOLE.

IF WE HOLD HANDS WHILE GOING THROUGH THE HOLE WE END UP AT THE SAME TIME
BUT WE WERE APART.
BENI WASN'T AT
THE PLACE I ARRIVED TO.
GOING BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE PRESENT AND THE PAST.
TO FIND BENI-SAMA...
WE GOT SEPARATED TO DIFFERENT TIMES...
SO I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR HER SINCE THEN.

THUD
WHAT THE HELL ...
HAVE YOU DONE...!

EVEN BENI... IS USING THAT THING NOW.
SHIT...
.....
!
HOW... DID THAT EVEN HAPPEN
WHAT EXPOSED BENI TO THAT HOLE?
WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP HER?!
HACHI-KUMA-DONO!
THERE IS SOMETHING I MUST—
DON'T TELL ME!!!

.....!?
DON'T... TELL ME ANYTHING.
YOU'RE TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING THAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE, RIGHT...
AM I WRONG ...?!
I DON'T WANT TO KNOW
ANYTHING THAT HAS TO DO WITH THE FUTURE.

AT THIS RATE, ONE DAY, BENI-SAMA'S MOTHER WILL...
I CAN STILL MAKE IT NOW...
...BUT!
KAG-ETORA
I DECIDED TO NEVER USE THE HOLE'S POWERS ANYMORE,
NO MATTER IN WHAT WAY.
.....!?
NOW THAT I KNOW THAT BECAUSE OF THAT THING... HIRONO IS IN DANGER,
I'M TRYING TO MAKE HER STOP GOING TO THE FUTURE.

AND...
THE 17 YEAR OLD BENI THAT YOU KNOW
HAS GONE MISSING BECAUSE OF THAT
IT'S ALL THE HOLE'S FAULT.

WHICH IS WHY I WON'T USE THE HOLE.
I DON'T WANT HIRONO NOR BEN! TO USE IT, EITHER.
BECAUSE OF THAT THING...
THINGS ARE AS THEY ARE NOW, KAGETORA.
EVEN THE KNOWLEDGE YOU HAVE FOR ME THAT YOU GOT THANKS TO THIS THING.
I DON'T WANT TO KNOW A SINGLE DETAIL ABOUT IT.

I REJECT ANYTHING
THAT HAS TO DO WITH THE HOLE.

.....
...BUT, IF I DON'T USE IT, I WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND BENI-SAMA...
...I'M SORRY FOR PUNCHING YOU.
...YOU NEED IT TO FIND HER, DON'T YOU
TO FIND BENI
...I CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING.

I'M THE ONLY ONE REJECTING IT...
I HAVE NO INTENTION TO FORCE YOU TO DO THE SAME.
.....
EVEN IF YOU TRY TO STOP ME, HACHIKUMA-DONO...
I WILL...
CONTINUE LOOKING FOR BENI-SAMA
UNTIL I FIND HER.

.....
KAGETORA
IF YOU EVER SEE YOURSELF INSIDE OF THE HOLE, WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T GET CLOSE.
AT THE WORST CASE SCENERIO, BOTH SIDES OF YOU WILL DISAPPEAR.
YOU'LL BE
ERASED.

...I SEE.
NO... MOST LIKELY NOT.
...IS BENI AWARE OF ANY OF THIS?
SHE MIGHT BE USING IT...
WITHOUT KNOWING ABOUT IT, JUST LIKE YOU.
I JUST HOPE SHE DIDN'T MEET HERSELF ...

IF I DON'T... FIND BENI-SAMA QUICKLY
IF... THAT WERE TO HAPPEN...
NO...
.... AH .... AAH.
IF BENI GOT ERASED ...
I DON'T HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO STAY SANE.
I MIGHT... TREAT YOU QUITE HORRIBLY.

BUT
REMEMBER THIS
IT'S ALL
THE HOLE'S FAULT.
IT'S NO ONE'S FAULT

NO MATTER WHAT I SAID
THAT'S... NEVER MY TRUE INTENTION.
IT'S JUST THE ONLY WAY TO CALM MY FEELINGS DOWN.
DON'T TAKE MY WORDS FOR WHAT THEY ARE.
KAGETORA.
ERASED?
BENI-SAMA WILL BE...

...THAT
...DON'T WANT THAT
I DON'T WANT THAT...
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO THINK OF THAT!

I DON'T EVEN WANT TO IMAGINE...
WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE AFTER LOSING BENI-SAMA!
EFINITELY ...
...I WILL DEFINITELY... FIND HER
BENI-SAMA.

....EVEN AT THE COST OF MY LIFE.

Dash
...DID HE JUST... CRY?
THAT KAGETORA?

THAT'S THE FIRST TIME
I'VE HEARD HIS CHIPPED VOICE
WHILE SHOWING HIS EMOTIONS LIKE THAT.
WHEN HE WAS A CHILD.
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM EXPRESS HIMSELF LIKE THAT... NOT EVEN ONCE.
...HE MUST REALLY CARE FOR BEN!

I MUST PROTECT HIRONO AND BENI HERE.
IF I COULD, I'D HELP FIND 17 YEAR OLD BENI AS WELL BUT
...FORGIVE ME, KAGETORA
BUT I MUST PRAY FOR IT NEVERTHELESS ...
MAY YOU FIND 17 YEAR OLD BENI...
IF ANYTHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO EITHER OF THEM NOW
I KNOW THAT THIS IS A SELFISH [illegible] OF ME,
IT WOULD AFFECT THEM IN THE FUTURE, AS WELL.
chapter 34/ END

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